WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device to be attached to a threaded stud, comprising a body having a bore for insertion of a stud, wherein the device has only a single pawl, and, in the absence of a stud in the bore, the pawl extends from an inner wall of the bore in a direction substantially perpendicular to the axis of the bore, wherein the pawl has a flexible thin section connected to the inner wall and a thick section extending from the thin section, wherein the pawl can be bent in opposite directions at the thin section for mounting the device on a stud from two directions, wherein a pair of thread engaging sections are formed at an end of the thick section, one or the other engaging section being disposed for entering a space between crests of threads of a stud depending on the direction of insertion of the stud in the bore.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein a pair of grooves are formed adjacent to corresponding engaging sections of the pawl, each groove being disposed for receiving a crest of a thread adjacent to the space between crests.

3. The device according to claim 1, wherein the length of the thick section of the pawl is substantially greater than the distance between the inner wall and a stud inserted in the bore, and wherein after insertion of a stud in the bore, the pawl forms an angle substantially less than 90° from the centerline of the pawl before insertion of a stud.

4. The device according to claim 1, wherein a tip of each engaging section is arcuate so as to conform to the curvature of the threads.

5. The device according to claim 2, wherein each groove is arcuate so as to conform to the curvature of the threads.

6. A device to be attached to a threaded stud, comprising a body having a bore for insertion of a stud, and having only a single pawl in the bore, wherein the pawl is connected by a hinge to a first inner wall of the bore, wherein the pawl has a centerline extending in a first direction substantially perpendicular to the axis of the

bore before insertion of a stud in the bore and forming an angle of substantially less than 90° with respect to the first direction after insertion of the stud in the bore, and wherein the pawl has a thread engaging section that enters a space between successive crests of threads of a stud and has an adjacent groove that receives one of the crests of the thread, and wherein a second inner wall of the bore is constructed to minimize lateral movement of the stud in the first direction, and in a direction orthogonal to the first direction.

7. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the second inner wall of the bore is dimensioned to closely surround a major portion of the circumference of the stud.

8. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the engaging section and the groove are formed on a section of the pawl substantially thicker than a section of the pawl forming the hinge.

9. A device according to Claim 8, wherein there are a pair of the engaging sections and a pair of the grooves at

opposite sides of the thicker section of the pawl, whereby an engaging section and a groove can engage threads of the stud irrespective of the direction of insertion of a stud into the bore.

10. A device according to Claim 9, wherein tips of the engaging sections and the grooves are arcuate to conform to the curvature of the threads of the stud.

11. A device according to Claim 6, wherein a stud is disposed in the bore.

12. A device according to Claim 1, wherein the body includes a component mounting section for holding a component.

13. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the body includes a component mounting section for holding a component.